

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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GENEVA PASS DAS STEPHEN W. BOSWORTH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IEA

SUBJECT: ENERGY:AVAILABILITY OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE
GREEK NATIONAL ENERGY COUNCIL, DR. GEORGE S. ARGYOPOULOS,
TO BE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE IEA/SLT.

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK APPOINTMENTS WITH EITHER
PANAYIOTIOS PAPALIGOURAS , IN OFFICE OF MINISTER OF
COORDINATION, OR DR. R. MOISSIS, DIRECTOR OF GREEK
NATIONAL ENERGY COUNCIL, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, TO
EXPLORE WITH THEM AVAILABILITY OF DR. ARGYOPOULOS FOR
POSITION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF IEA STANDING GROUP OF LONG
TERM COOPERATION.

2. YOUR APPROACH SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS: A, IEA
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GOVERNING BOARD WILL PROBABLY CONSIDER NAMING ONE OR
MORE VICE CHAIRMEN TO THE SLT AT ITS FORTHCOMING
MEETING OF MARCH 15, 16. B) US GREATLY APPRECIATES
CONSISTENTLY USEFUL AND HELPFUL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE
BY GREECE SINCE JOINING IEA. GREEK DELEGATES, PARTICULARLY
DR ARGYOPOULOS, HAVE PLAYED MAJOR CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE
IN HELPING TO BUILD CONSUMER COUNTRY COOPERATION ON

ENERGY. C) ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF SUCH COOPERATION IS
LONG TERM EFFORT TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL

THROUGH COORDINATION OF IEA MEMBER COUNTRY ENERGY
POLICIES IN AREAS OF CONSERVATION, ACCELERATED DEVELOP-
MENT OF NEW ENERGY SUPPLIES AND JOINT PROJECTS IN
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. D) DR. GEORGE S.
ARGYOPOULOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL ENERGY
COUNCIL SECRETARIAT, HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN
WORK OF THE SLT, WE CONSIDER HIM TO BE A PROFESSIONAL
ADVOCATE OF CLOSE CONSUMER COUNTRY COOPERATION
IN ENERGY. E) US WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSIDER
SUPPORTING DR. ARGYOPOULOS FOR POSITION OF VICE
CHAIRMAN OF THE SLT IF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT CAN PROVIDE
FIRM ASSURANCE THAT HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE REGULARLY
FOR SLT MEETINGS.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
REACTIONS OF GREEK OFFICIALS. THIS MATTER HAS BEEN
DISCUSSED INFORMALLY BY CHAIRMAN OF SLT WITH DR.
ARGYOPOULOS AND HE HAS INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE
PREPARED TO ATTEND SLT MEETINGS REGULARLY IF HIS
SUPERIORS IN GREEK GOVERNMENT ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE
ASSURANCE OF HIS AVAILABILITY TO ATTEND SLT MEETINGS
REGULARLY. IN MAKING APPROACH TO GREEK AUTHORITIES
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO ENSURE THAT YOU DO NOT
INDICATE THAT US IS COMMITTED TO CANDIDACY OF DR.
ARGYOPOMLOS. DECISION BY US IS HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON
REACTION OF GREEK AUTHORITIES TO AVAILABILITY OF
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DR. ARGYOPOULOS FOR REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT SLT
MEETINGS SINCE ABSENT SUCH ATTENDANCE IT IS DIFFICULT
TO SEE HOW HE WOULD BE ABLE TO REPLACE VICE CHAIRMAN
WHEN NECESSARY.

4. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REPORT SOONEST RESPONSES
OF GREEK AUTHORITIES, WITH INFO COPY TO OECD PARIS.

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Message Attributes

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